

NEWINGTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
NEWINGTON TOWN HALL  
131 CEDAR STREET  
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT  
CONFERENCE ROOM L-101 LOWER LEVEL, TOWN HALL  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2013

#### I. MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman James Marocchini (absent)  
Commission Karen Faust  
Commissioner Stanley Marcinczyk  
Commissioner Mark Mnich  
Commissioner David Marsden  
Commissioner Gregory Polk  
Commissioner Thomas Shields  
Commissioner Paul Vessella  
Commissioner Linda Woods  
Commissioner Fernando Rosa

Economic Development Director  
Andrew Brecher

#### II. MEETING MINUTES March 6, 2013

Let the record show that after a review of the tape of the March 6, 2013 meeting, Commissioner Polk said, "...to invite people LIKE Toll Brothers", and NOT Director Brecher. Commissioner Shields made a motion to accept the corrected March 6, 2013 minutes. It was seconded by Commissioner Polk. The motion passes unanimously.

#### III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Rose Lyons congratulated Best Market for submitting the winning bid for Northwood Plaza.

#### IV. NEW BUSINESS

##### A. Chamber of Commerce Business Showcase

Commissioner Shields reminded members that the Economic Development Commission has always participated in setting up a booth at the annual Chamber of Commerce Business Showcase to be held Saturday, April 13, 2013 10AM-4PM with a social gathering on Friday, April 12, 2013 at 5:00 P.M. All members are invited to volunteer for this annual business showcase.

#### V. OLD BUSINESS

##### A. Business Breakfast

Commissioner Shields reported that the State Banking Commissioner has agreed to be the guest speaker on May 24, 2013 at the Indian Hill Golf Course. Director Andrew Brecher said the invitation list will be updated to include financial institutions, attorneys and the letters will be mailed by May 1, 2013.

B. Downtown Signage for Constitution Square/Market Square

Director Brecher reported that the new downtown signage will include pole signs at Market Square and Constance Leigh Drive with the Police Department's approval of 7 feet above ground level. Also, another sign in front of Goldburger's with the Engineering Department's approval and a permit from the State DOT. Location "F" needs an easement and a surveyor to be hired for an official drawing, requiring the property owner's permission. The sign "X" at East Cedar Street needs an easement and the sign at Constance Leigh Drive will be 4' above the ground and moved onto town property. Another sign on East Cedar is ready to be staked and the center green sign is ready to be staked. There will be a directory in the center with the capability for electrical outlets.

Commissioner Marcinczyk suggested revamping the old signage in town.

Commissioner Rosa added that overhauling the signage in Newington could be accomplished on a long term basis, two or three signs at a time according to the council's budget, which would be an important asset to the town of Newington.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Rose Lyons added that receiving input from the Town Manager, Mr. Salamone before a signage renewal project is started would be resourceful in taking on this project.

VII. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Economic Development Director Brecher along with Town Planner Craig Minor attended the March 21, 2013 auction for bidding on the purchase of Northwood Plaza and the sale will close on May 6, 2013 with the winner Best Market of Bethpage, N.Y. Director Brecher added that Best Market will be hiring a store designer, architect and engineer with a focus on opening in 5 months. Renovations will include LED lighting and even electrical charging stations to be installed for electrical vehicles, a new roof, new store sign and an overall minimalist look. The store will feature meat counters, fresh produce and large craft beer sections. The parking lot will also be repaired, with materials already being stockpiled in the store. Director Brecher will be an advocate and encouragement to Best Market to keep on this track until the grand opening.

VIII. REMARKS BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Polk suggested that a brochure could be handed out at the Chamber of Commerce Business Showcase announcing the forthcoming Best Market development at Northwood Plaza.

Development Director Brecher noted that there is a new tenant at the former Appleby's restaurant on the Berlin Turnpike.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Shields made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Vessella seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sophie Glenn, Recording Secretary